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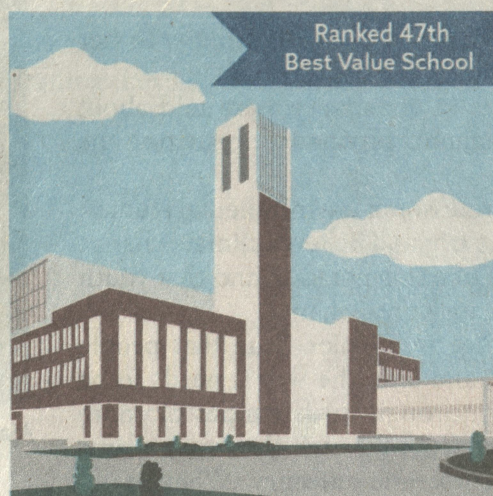
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# Salisbury University scores high marks on national report card

BENJAMIN LAW / Staff writer



/ Amy Wojtowicz graphic

REPORT CARD- Salisbury University has been in the national spotlight recently, as U.S. News & World Report ranked SU 47th among the north region's "Best Value Schools" for 2020.

Student outcomes, faculty resources, financial resources, student excellence and standardized test scores are just a few of the criteria used to determine academic quality.

SU has been ranked as a "Best Value School" in the past.

Recently, funds have been put toward new projects such as undergraduate research, and this semester,

gym equipment in the weight room and other exercise room has been upgraded.

Some other upgrades include the presentation practice room and the 3D printer in the Guerrieri Academic Commons.

When potential students visit SU for tours, they see many of the new, upgraded facilities in buildings. For freshman Julius Kennedy, finances were one of the biggest determining factors that led him to go to SU. He also considered Syracuse University in New York and Seton Hall University in New Jersey. "It's hard paying for college," Kennedy said.

Once Kennedy moved in on campus for the first time before classes started, he felt like SU did a great job helping new students.

He appreciated the care that SU went into helping new freshman students feel at home on their new campus.

"During the move-in day and the orientation week and all that weekend, I think that was actually a really helpful transition from coming from home to coming to college," Kennedy said. "We had a cluster group. I think that was a really smart thing to do, and it was really ... it made us really comfortable. Get assimilated into college."

There are other types of colleges besides public universities where tuition is dramatically higher, like

Best value / page 3



## ABOUT

The Flyer is Salisbury University's student newspaper — composed by students for students. The organization was established in 1973 to keep the SU community informed and entertained.

Issues are published monthly throughout the regular school year and are printed by Delaware Printing Company of Dover, Del. A total of 1,500 copies are distributed on campus per circulation.

The Flyer strives for accuracy and corrects its errors immediately. If you believe a factual error has been printed, feel free to contact staff. Thank you.

# Dean Dockins-Mills awarded for service to students

JAKOB TODD / Staff writer

RECOGNITION-Salisbury University's Dr. Lawanda Dockins-Mills has been presented with the Board of Regent's Staff Award in the "Outstanding Services to Students in an Academic or Residential Environment" category.

The accolade is an honor given by the University System of Maryland, which Dockins-Mills earned for her dedicated work in numerous positions and titles to better campus life for all Salisbury students.

Not only the associate dean of students, Dockins-Mills also serves as director of the Guerrieri Student Union, co-chair of the Sophomore Year Experience and oversees countless other initiatives, including move-in day and freshman orientation. Her work has sought to improve the quality of day-to-day life for students, better neighborhood relations and develop more effective commuter services.

For sophomores, Dockins-Mills has been an integral part of organizing the annual Sophomore Year Experience Carnival held on campus.

The GSU director focuses heavily on spreading safety awareness through the initiatives that she leads, such as a door-knocker campaign around the local community to spread awareness of city ordinances and safety practices.

During this initiative, Dockins-Mills distributed the door-knockers alongside volunteer students to houses around the neighborhood in an effort to minimize any potential dangers.

While her body of work was a very convincing factor for her nomination, Dockins-Mills believes that her passion for students has been key.

"I love it," Dockins-Mills said. "My passion



/ SBY Business Journal image

is really about the success of our students."

In fact, the associate dean was "moved" and "brought to tears" after receiving her nomination, as she was then able to see how much her fellow administrators appreciated that dedication and effort.

She also attributes her success to carefully listening to the concerns of students and addressing their needs in every way possible.

Embracing their needs, she believes, leads to critical improvements in current initiatives, or even spiraling into new projects completely.

These new initiatives include a fall Sophomore Year Experience event to bookend the current spring event held for second-year students, though it is still in early development.

Recently, Dockins-Mills coordinated the design of a new postcard that was sent out to welcome back returning students while simultaneously reinforcing safety practices in the community.

One of the university's student organizations Dockins-Mills most frequently works alongside is the Student Government Association.

Dockins-Mills / page 3



## Salisbury University students and professors participate in Youth Climate Strike in D.C.

SOFIA CARRASCO / Editor-in-chief

STRIKE-“What do we want!” “Climate Justice!”  
“When do we want it?” “Now!”  
Salisbury University students led this chant as they marched down the streets of Washington, D.C. in the Youth Climate Strike protest on Sept. 20.

The Youth Climate Strike was part of a larger global climate protest, with youth organizing strikes in more than 150 countries. Over four million people worldwide participated in this protest, making it likely to be the largest climate protest in history, according to 350.org.

The march began at 11 a.m. in John Marshall Park and ended at the U.S. Capitol around 2 p.m.

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Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old Swedish climate activist, ignited the youth-driven movement to advocate for climate justice and started the Fridays for Future movement. Many of the protesters at the event were kids, teenagers or young adults who were on strike from school in order to call attention to climate change.

SU senior Rachel Dubbs, a political science and environmental studies major, was glad she had the opportunity to participate in this global strike.

It was Dubbs' first protest, and being surrounded by other like-minded youth inspired her to keep fighting for climate justice in the U.S.

“I think it's really important to advocate for

climate change and about different environmental problems going on right now,” Dubbs said. “You have a right to protest, so any chance you get to stand up for what you believe in and get a platform behind it and join a huge group of people, you should do it.”

Ellie Harris, junior at SU, protesting with her sign at the Youth Climate Strike

Many students in attendance were told about the protest from the SU professors organizing the trip.

Shane Hall, professor of environmental studies, helped arrange the trip and believes climate change is a defining issue of our generation and that youth have the power to make real change.

“Climate change is a major issue that people need to confront, and also, the way it needs to be confronted is not through more studies or more science,” Hall said. “It is through the mechanisms of an engaged democratic citizenry. Whether it's marching or talking to your congressional representatives or conducting nonviolent civil disobedience, these are the things that make democracy work.”

Sarah Surak, professor of political science and environmental studies at SU, also organized the trip and attended the Youth Climate Strike with students.

Surak wanted to help facilitate students to see what youth-organized activism looks like and to demonstrate the power youth hold.

“Youth movements have often led to political change for a variety of reasons,” Surak said. “And allowing our students to observe what is going on right now is important because I think we're at a critical moment in time.”

Students heard from a wide range of speakers, including indigenous youth climate activists, the



Ajay Ian Draper, junior at SU, protesting at the Youth Climate Strike / Sofia Carrasco image

students who are currently involved in the Juliana v. United States case, representatives from 360.org and members of Congress.

Surak thinks hearing these speakers is an extremely valuable experience for students.

“We went on Friday in particular for students to be able to see these very powerful environmental speeches, especially from members of Congress that we would not see here in Salisbury,” Surak said. “It's not the same to see speakers on video; seeing them in person is very different and more impactful.”

The Youth Climate Strike was planned the Friday before the United Nations gathered on Sept. 23 for the Climate Action Summit to discuss actions to combat global climate change.

## Thousands flock to shore for 31st annual Sea Gull Century

K.B. MENSAH / News editor

SEA GULL CENTURY-Personal milestones are set every day at Salisbury University, but Oct. 4 saw thousands of people pass a handful of them on their bike ride.

The 31st annual Sea Gull Century took place on Saturday, Oct. 4 here on the Eastern Shore. Thousands of cyclists from all over came to participate in one of two bicycle rides through the area.

The largest one-day tourism event for Wicomico County, the Century has an estimated impact of \$4.5 million, according to SU's Business, Economic and Community Outreach Network.

Consisting of a 64-mile ride and a 100-mile ride, the Century is not a race, but an event designed to bring together cyclists and attention to the natural beauty of the Shore.

The casual nature of the event took riders like Tamon Honda, a 53-year-old Federal Aviation Administration employee from Arlington, Virginia, by surprise.

“The people were really nice. I thought there were going to be a lot of alpha types,” Honda said. “The last time I did something like this was a triathlon, and you really do get the alpha types for that.”

Cyclists are known for being competitive not only about their bikes, but their performance. To riders like Honda, this departure from the often-competitive cycling scene is a relief.

“You know, there wasn't a lot of jockeying for position or trying to show others up, just people riding at their own pace,” Honda said.

The Century has been named one of the top 10 century bike rides by Bicycling Magazine. Cyclists often praise the beautiful

coastal scenery as well as the flat terrain.

In fact, it was the prospect of an easy ride that made Susanne Goodwin and Armella Schroder, two friends both aged 55 from Reston, Virginia, head up for the ride.

“It's nearby, so it's not too far to drive. And it's flat,” Schroder said.

“It's a good time of year, too. We thought it was going to be a little warmer, but it'll warm up,” Goodwin said, shortly before she and Schroder departed.

While many participants were older cyclists and not from the area, there were SU students represented in the Century as well.

Julia Rohrer, a junior and an English for-speakers of other languages major who rode with her dad, had a pleasant ride up and down the coast.

“It was a really awesome experience,” Rohrer said. “This was my first time doing it, so I didn't really know what to expect.”

Not only was this Rohrer's first Sea Gull Century, it was her first time cycling for more than 50 miles.

“The most I had done in my training was 50 miles, so my goal was to finish the full 100.”

Like many first timers participating in a large ride, Rohrer went into the Century not knowing for sure if she could complete it.

However, she felt confident having spent so much of her summer working up to cycling for longer distances.

“This summer, I was kind of like ‘Well, you know what? I could do it. Let me just let me just start out and see how I go,’” Rohrer said. “And then sure enough, I was going farther and farther every time I went out for a bike ride. And then I was like, ‘Well, I might as well sign up and go for it.’”



/ K.B. Mensah image

The wrong type of bicycle or poor training regimen can derail an aspiring distance cyclist's dreams.

Rohrer found that taking small steps and having the right equipment made all the difference in her conditioning.

“I would definitely recommend getting a good bike. I think that's really important,” Rohrer said. “Definitely get a road bike, and not just, like, what a lot of students have, which are just, like, little cruisers.”

It also pays to know about bikes and why beyond short transportation why specialization is key in purchasing one.

“My friend's dad did the 100 miles on a mountain bike, and he was hurting,” Rohrer said. “You need to know the difference between a mountain bike versus a road bike versus a hybrid bike, and what the different bikes can do.”

## SU a 'Best Value' school / from page 1

private colleges, art schools and music conservatories. Syracuse and Seton Hall both happen to be private universities.

One factor that makes SU stand out from other institutions is that it offers transfer scholarships for students who are transferring from community colleges. This can save students thousands of dollars.

Veteran student Caleb Mayers, who works in the veteran's office on campus, agrees that SU is a great school to get the most of your money.

Mayers is also a native of the Eastern Shore, and he felt like SU helped him transition well from the service world into higher education.

He likes how SU is in the same university system as the University of Maryland, College Park, which means that students have access to the same library resources and other materials even though College Park is more expensive.

Some of his friends decided to go to Col-

lege Park and private schools, but Mayers is content with his decision to come to SU.

“I have some friends who have gone to either private universities or even places like College Park, which is in the same university system within Maryland, where tuition and fees are so much more expensive,” Mayers said. “Don't get me wrong, [a] college education is an expensive investment. However, for the value you're getting, it is a decent deal here.”

Mayers said that SU does a great job at helping veterans understand how to find out what their benefits are when applying to SU. The veterans' office can walk potential students through the entire application process.

Mayers likes that much of the staff who work in the office are veterans themselves, meaning they are better able to assist students.

When there is someone able to relate to what the other person is going through, it makes it easier for that person to get things

done.

Student Jahlissa Bell did not feel like college rankings played a major factor on her decision-making, but she found that finances were a stronger component to choosing a school.

Bell is from New Jersey, and she compared the types of schools in that state to SU.

“Salisbury is one of the cheapest schools cause I'm from Jersey, and Jersey schools are way more expensive than this would have been,” Bell said. “A lot of Jersey schools are private, so they're more expensive. They do have public schools, but they're the big ones.”

The cost of college plays an important role along with how well students are able to find the help they may need.

## Dockins / from page 1

SGA President Devin Neil saw firsthand the impact the associate dean of students had on the entire student body, saying that much of its work is “made possible through [Dockins-Mills] support and guidance, enabling students to make the change they would like to see in their community.”

Many other Salisbury University programs have been influenced by Dockins-Mills' contributions over the years, including the design of freshman orientation.

She wrote the initial format for the event, which originally was only held for three days, but has since grown into four to accommodate the larger influx of incoming students each year. However, the same structure the associate dean created over 19 years ago is still the foundation of the program.

Dockins-Mills is a Salisbury University alum, earning her B.A. in Communication Arts and M.Ed. in Education Administration from SU, later attending the University of Maryland Eastern Shore to earn her Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership. Soon after, she would return to her original alma mater to deliver 32 years of dedicated service thus far to her fellow Sea Gulls.

## A tour of Salisbury University's green initiatives

SOFIA CARRASCO / Editor in Chief

GOING GREEN: Salisbury University boasts many green and sustainable initiatives in order to make the campus more efficient. Wayne Shelton is the director of campus sustainability and environmental safety at SU and is in charge of maintaining all these different features on campus.

### The Academic Commons Green Roof

The Green Roof on top of the Academic Commons is a natural feature that was installed for the purpose of absorbing and filtering rain water before it reaches the ground.

“This is 10,000 square feet of coverage and all the plants you see are native plants to Maryland,” Shelton said. “It is primarily sedums at this time and they seem to be durable enough throughout the whole season.”

The state of Maryland requires that storm water must stay in place and the creation of the Green Roof replaced the need for ineffective water retention ponds.



/ Sofia Carrasco image

### Bicycle friendly campus

SU encourages students to walk, bike and skate to class instead of driving in order to reduce the school's emissions.

Julia Barrett, a senior at SU, reduces her carbon footprint by biking to campus every day and utilizes the bike racks outside of buildings.

“It's really helpful that there are so many bike racks around campus and I think it encourages people to ride instead of drive,” Barrett said. “I also like that some of them have those stations where I can pump my tires or fix any screws.”

The “Fix-It Stations” were created by student requests to have a place where they can repair their bikes for free, according to Shelton.



/ Sofia Carrasco image

### Community garden

The student-run community garden located near the intersection of Camden Avenue and College Avenue and across the street from Holloway Hall is an example of a Green Fund project. The garden was created in 2012 and is maintained by SU's garden club.

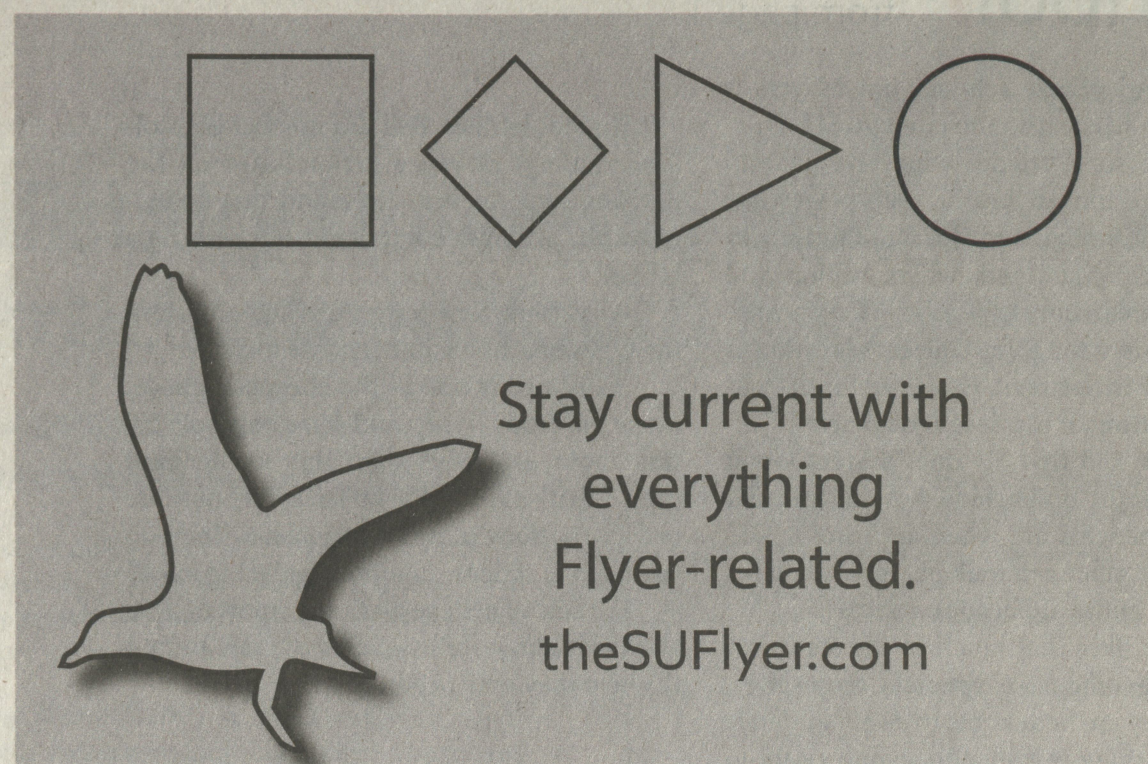
“They do give some of the produce like vegetables and such to Dining Services,” Shelton said. “But the students that handle this garden have the first opportunity to take things home with them.”

SU created the Green Fund to provide students with the opportunity to increase sustainability efforts on campus and to foster stronger environmental stewardship.



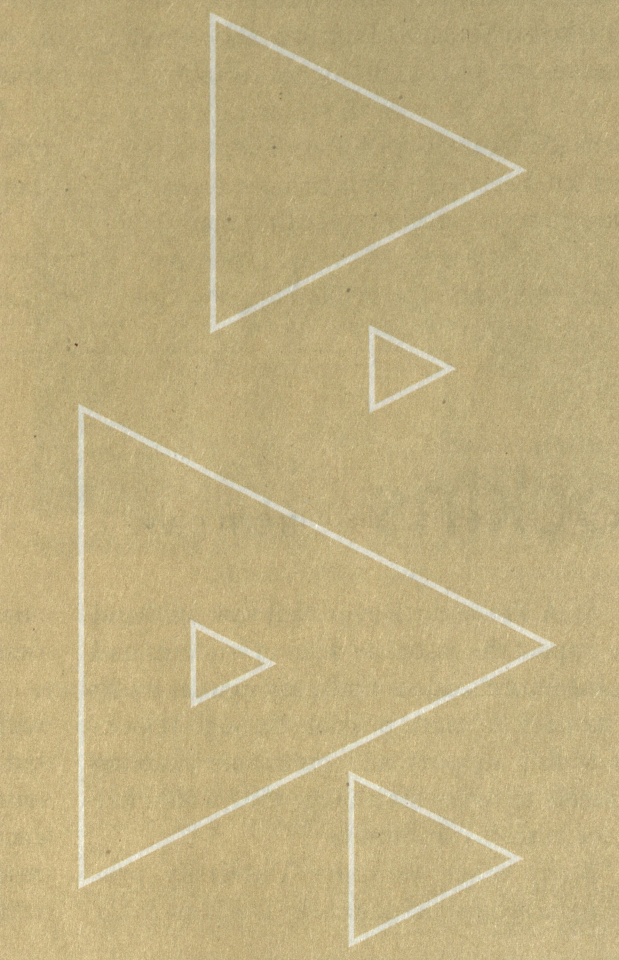
/ Sofia Carrasco image





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## Put on a happy face as we review the 'Joker' movie

MELANIE RAIBLE / Editorial editor

ATTENTION: If you haven't already seen "Joker," there are spoilers ahead ...

Starring Joaquin Phoenix and directed by Todd Phillips, "Joker" had high expectations from both critics and moviegoers. Many people were skeptical about this movie, saying that it would bring toxic fans who would threaten the audience.

However, after a relatively calm opening weekend, many of those thoughts slowed as the hype around "Joker" continued to speed up. The movie quickly broke records, and since its premiere, "Joker" has become the biggest October opening of all time, bringing in a staggering \$93.5 million to box offices.

The movie provides a backstory to Batman's psychotic arch-nemesis, Joker. The opening scene takes place in Gotham City in 1981, where we first get introduced to Arthur Fleck (Phoenix), who is working as a clown. He lives with his sick mother, Penny Fleck, who always writes letters to Thomas Wayne (Bruce Wayne's dad), whom she idolizes.

Arthur is a failed stand-up comedian who cannot catch a break. He often gets bullied and harassed for his medical condition, which causes him to uncontrollably laugh for no apparent reason. Parents often turn their children away from him on the bus, and women are uncomfortable in his presence.

There is a handful of gruesome scenes in this movie, so if you are one to get ill at the sight of blood, "Joker" may not be the movie for you. The most disturbing scene in the movie is when Ar-

thur finally snaps on one of his coworkers, who played a role in getting Arthur fired, and murders him by slamming his head repeatedly against the wall.

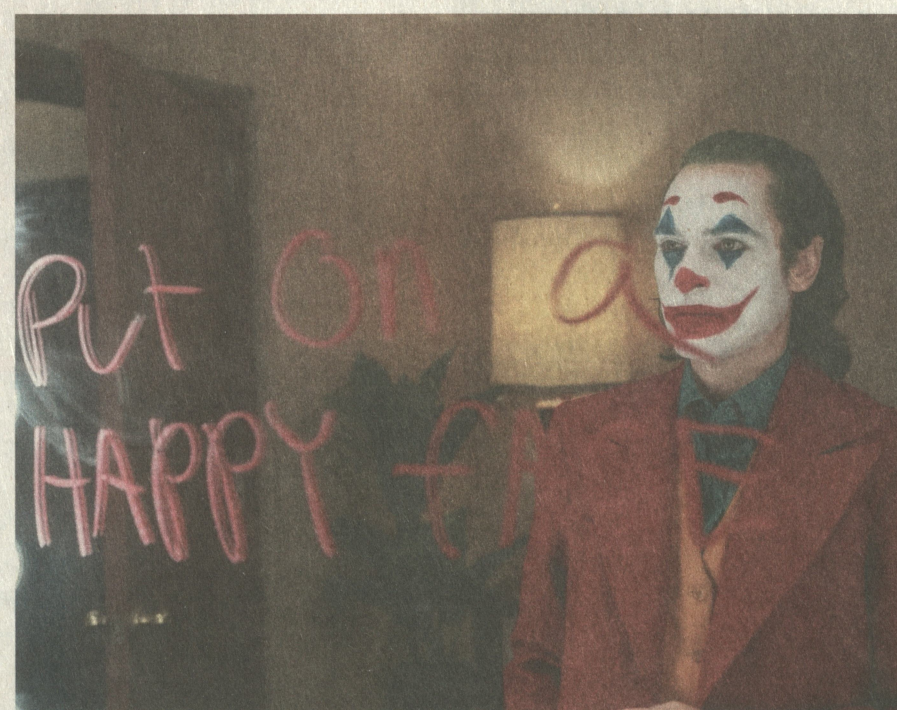
Although, the whole movie isn't just showing Arthur gruesomely murdering people. The majority of it shows the dynamic between him and his mother. We see a nurturing side of him that we haven't seen before in any of the other movies featuring the Joker.

We see Arthur appearing to be a caring and loving son, bathing, feeding, dancing and watching TV with his mother. Although, of course this all changes toward the end, when he suffocates his own mother with a pillow, but we'll just ignore that for now.

Overall, "Joker" shows a different side to the notorious Joker and shares an interesting take on his background story. If you haven't already seen the movie, try to get to a theater soon to watch it.

Some may say the movie didn't meet their expectations, but I can genuinely say that I thoroughly enjoyed watching it.

The music was perfect, the acting was great, and the story line was riveting. Of course, no Joker will ever beat the infamous Heath Ledger's performance, but Joaquin Phoenix definitely gives viewers a run for their money.



/ Shutterstock image



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## EDITORIAL

HIGHLIGHTS

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## The 2020 election: A milestone for women



/ Getty Image

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MELANIE RAIBLE / Editorial editor

OPINION – It's crazy to think that women were given the right to vote only a century ago. Even though our nation still has some major flaws when it comes to equality, women have been making great strides of progress when it comes to politics. The 2020 race, although still a year away, holds the record-breaking number of women attempting to break through the glass ceiling of the political world.

For the first time in our nation's history, six women entered the race, five of whom are still current contenders. Tulsi Gabbard, Kamala Harris, Amy Klobuchar, Elizabeth Warren and Marianne Williamson are all currently running in the election, all of whom are running as Democrats.

Salisbury University's women's history professor Dr. Kara French understands the importance that the current election holds and describes it as a milestone for all women, not only to those running for presidency.

"I would definitely say, to echo Hillary Clinton, that the presidency is the ultimate glass ceiling," French said. "It is my hope that when a woman is elected president, that will make it easier everywhere for women to aspire to leadership roles." French is also aware of the unfortunate replies that will come from a woman getting elected as

president.

"I am sure there would still be those among her opponents that would try to smear her because of her gender. For example, President Obama's election did not erase racism overnight, and I don't think having a female president would erase sexism overnight, either," French said. "However, I am confident that after taking office, the majority of Americans would judge her on her policies and job performance and not her gender."

In order to fully appreciate the weight of this election, it's important to understand the past events surrounding the fight for women's suffrage. The following is a timeline highlighting some of the key events throughout history.

1848 :The first women's rights convention is held in Seneca Falls, New York.

1859 :The first National Women's Rights Convention takes place in Worcester, Massachusetts. More than 1,000 women attend the convention.

1870 :Congress ratifies the 15th Amendment: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

Women in politics / page 6

## The battle of the streaming platforms



/ Google i Clip Art

DAELYN FUNK / Staff writer

TV-Where are the Disney fans? How about Marvel? "Star Wars"? What about BBC? Live sports? Is anyone a "Friends" or a "The Big Bang Theory" fanatic? There is talk that this November, a streaming platform will be released including all these aspects. We just need to figure out which one is right for you.

As you probably already know, Disney is coming out with its own streaming platform this November called "Disney+." This subscription will include all the Disney movies, some of which have been slowly pulled off Netflix and other streaming platforms for this reason.

It will also include a collection of Marvel, Star Wars and Pixar spinoff series and prequels. The pricing for this subscription will be \$6.99 per month or \$69.99 per year.

However, Warner Bros is also releasing its own new streaming platform soon in spring of 2020 called "HBO Max." This subscription will include a partnership with BBC as well as many big-name TV shows such as "Friends" and "The Big Bang Theory," which have also been pulled from competitors' streaming platforms.

The price for this subscription is currently unclear, but it has been confirmed that the price will be higher than its current \$14.99 per month. Many people think it could be raised as high as \$17 a month.

The question is, can HBO Max compete with Disney+? Does Disney have a competitor in the streaming business?

Disney is a very specialized company. It focuses heavily on a younger audience and receives a large portion of its revenue from its TV-themed products. On the other hand, Warner Bros. has a much wider audience in terms of age range. While Disney focuses largely on children's content, HBO Max will have all the TV shows that are less family-friendly, the kinds of shows that older and teenage audiences will be more attracted to.

But it costs more than twice the amount of Disney+, and it will probably end up being more than Netflix Premium Plan (\$15.99 per month) as well as a package deal Disney will be offering with two other big-name companies (\$12.99 per month). Is "The Office" really worth all the extra?

Okay, I may have exaggerated a little bit. "The

## Write to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Students, please include your name and class. Faculty members, please include your department. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. The Flyer reserves the right to refrain from publishing any text. Please email your letter as an attachment to Editor-in-Chief Sofia Carrasco, or in person at Office 125-M in GSU's Student Activities Center (CSIL). Deadline for submission is Friday at 5 p.m. Please email letters subjected "Letter to the Editor."

**Sofia Carrasco**  
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Editor-in-Chief



## Women in politics / from page 5

1878 :The Women's Suffrage Amendment is first introduced to Congress.

1890 :The National Women Suffrage Association and the American Women Suffrage Association merge to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

1893:Colorado is the first state to adopt an amendment granting women the right to vote.

August 26,1920: The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote, is signed into law.

Of course, there are many other events and women during this time that deserve to be acknowledged, and I could easily go on and on. However, it's difficult to summarize what are considered "key" events when all the events taken place during this time held importance in history.

It's easy to overlook the long fight women have endured for equality,

since today we live in a country that appears to give equal opportunity to all. Why should we care about the past if the present is livable? We should care because there are still deeply rooted issues in our nation, specifically toward inequality around race, class and gender. We should also care because as the pictures below indicate, history tends to repeat itself.

These two photos were taken decades apart, yet they both represent the inequalities and injustices women and minorities face in the workplace,



Women's Strike for Peace and Equality, New York City, Aug. 26, 1970. / The New York Historical Society



Boston Women's March, Jan. 19, 2019. / The New York Historical Society

specifically with the wage gap.

At the time when the Equal Pay Act was passed in 1963, women were making 59 cents on average for every dollar a man was making. Today, 56 years later, this number has only been raised 20 cents.

Not only does the 2020 election have the record-breaking number for the most women running, it can also be seen as a tribute to the long road women have traveled to get to where they are today. Even though there are

still many obstacles dividing genders, it is comforting to know that the Oval Office is not one of them. One more thing ...

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!!

## How to say goodbye to test anxiety and hello to straight A's

MELANIE RAIBLE / Editorial editor

TEST TAKING – As you're walking to class, heart pounding and palms sweaty, you feel that familiar gut-wrenching feeling in the pit of your stomach. The "I'm going to fail" mantra is playing in your head like a broken record.

You sit down in your seat and try to act normal. You quickly side glance at the person seated next to you and think to yourself, "I wonder if they can hear my heart pounding?" As the teacher begins to hand out the tests, you wipe your clammy hands on your pants and grip your pencil tighter.

If this scenario seems to hit close to home for you, chances are, you may be struggling with testing anxiety. If it makes you feel any better, you're not alone in this struggle. Millions of college students feel the same exact way when it comes to tests and would rather get on stage in their underwear than fail one more math test.

As a college student who is far too familiar with testing anxiety myself, I have picked up a few tips along the way that should help you get over your fear of exams.

Tip #1  
Skip. Totally kidding ... Unless?

But seriously... whatever you do, don't skip a test only because you're afraid to take it. If you think test anxiety is bad, try "make-up test anxiety." I promise you, it's a lot worse.

Tip #2  
STUDY!

I know this may come as a shock, but

studying for a test will actually help you on the test! I'll even reveal my favorite studying spot on campus ... the third floor of the Guerrieri Academic Commons (the silent study). It's great if you need to get away from your noisy roommates and cram for that test you "forgot" to study for.

Tip #3  
This tip goes off the last one. Don't "forget" to study. Try not to procrastinate studying for an upcoming exam, because this will only worsen your anxiety when it comes to test day. The more prepared you are for an exam, the less likely you'll feel anxious thoughts about not passing it.

Tip #4  
Try to relax. Don't put too much pressure on yourself when it comes to test-taking. Instead of cram studying, try to spread the studying sessions out before exam day. This way, you'll be less stressed the night before a test and have free time to relax and watch your favorite crime show on Netflix.

Tip #5  
Talk to your professor. Most professors are understanding when it comes to taking tests, since they were also college students themselves at one point in time. They may be able to provide you with some methods on how to get over your fear of test-taking.

Unfortunately, test-taking has been and will continue to be a part of our education



/ Clipart image

system. However, testing anxiety does not have to be. Teachers should do their best to acknowledge this fear that many students have and try to be as accommodating to these students as possible. Not everyone learns by studying for a 50-multiple-choice-question exam.

It's important to remember that being a good test-taker doesn't mean you have to show up to a test and ace it. A good test-taker is someone who comes to a test fully prepared and ready to receive the grade they deserve.

## Streaming / page 5

Big Bang Theory" isn't all that HBO Max has to offer. It's also offering a live streaming service — a special feature for the sports fans out there. It will also offer a partnership with BBC and will include many other TV shows in the PG/PG-13 category, one platform that Disney does not have a firm hold over.

It is also bringing a new writer-director-producer onto its team who Disney, Netflix and Apple have been fighting over. The company is hoping he'll help it produce some Warner Bros. original shows that it can put on HBO Max.

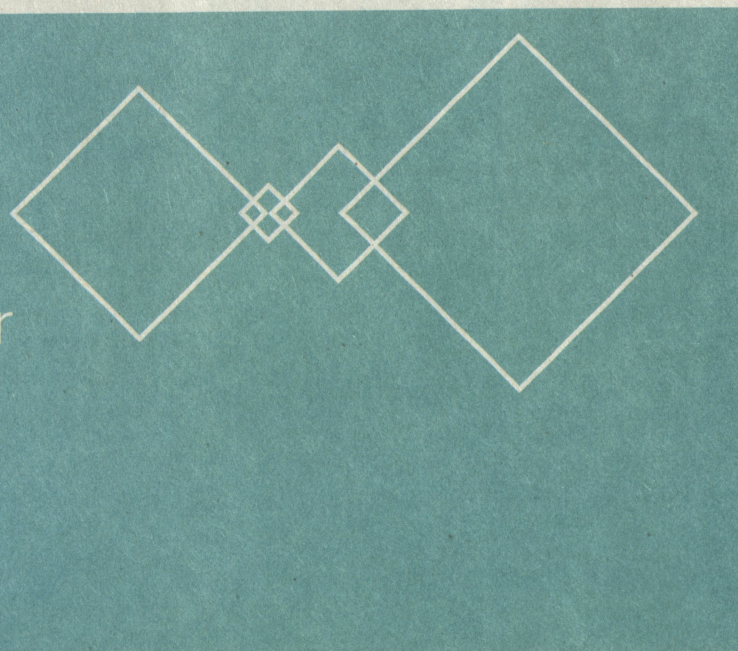
However, Disney+ will also be offering its before-mentioned bundle with Disney+, Hulu and ESPN+ for still less than HBO Max will end up costing, and its content will always be loved by people in every generation, no matter their age.

While Disney fans will be immediately reach for their Disney+ subscriptions, I personally would be more inclined to reach for

HBO Max. I like the kinds of series that my little sisters would run away from.

No one platform will be right for everyone, of that we can be certain. It's just a question of: Which is the best for you?

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## What podcasts are SU students listening to?

LAURA AMRHEIN / Staff writer

PODCASTS – Bored? Long car ride? Walking from class to class? Any of these situations are the perfect time for students to listen to podcasts. Podcasts allow students to listen to stories, talk shows and more. They are available on many different platforms, including the Apple podcast app, Spotify, iTunes and more. The variety of content that podcasts cover is vast, ranging from sports to crime to comedy to philosophy, meaning that there is a podcast for every interest.

Salisbury University freshman Mackenzie Mickle enjoys listening to the YouTube-famous Try Guys' podcast called "The Tripod on YouTube." She first heard about the podcast after watching the Try Guys' YouTube channel, and looks forward to a new podcast coming out every Thursday.

"They just talk about the behind-the-scenes stuff of their videos and behind-the-scenes stuff that's not included. They'll do, like, bits sort of, like there was one episode where they were, like, proposing a movie idea, and there was another one where they proposed inventions," Mickle stated.

Mickle enjoys listening to podcasts because of the ability it gives her to do other things while listening, unlike watching a video where she is just looking at the video to fully comprehend the topic.

"I can listen to it while doing homework; I don't actually have to watch it. With their videos, those are more visually based, but with the podcast, I can listen to it while doing other things," Mickle stated.

Junior Becky Gerber enjoys listening to podcasts as well, but listens to a differ-

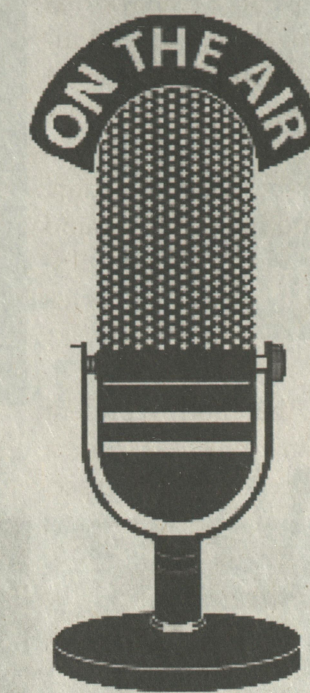
ent category than Mickle. Her favorite two podcasts are "True Crime All the Time" and "True Crime All the Time Unsolved."

"True Crime All the Time" is about usually murders, serial killers a lot of the time, and the two hosts walk through everything that happened with the crimes. 'Unsolved' is the same thing, except they do it with unsolved cases, so, like, they did one on the East Area Killer, the cold state killer and things like that," Gerber stated.

As many people do with Netflix or TV, Gerber uses podcasts as a way to unwind and relax at night before she falls asleep.

"[I listen to them] usually in the evenings, so I'll do it when I get in bed, around eight or nine. While I'm winding down, I'll usually listen to it," Gerber stated.

Owen Dennis, a senior at SU, listens to



/ Clip Art image

a variety of podcasts, ranging from fantasy football to the Impractical Jokers' podcasts, as well as a comedy show called 'What Say You?'

Dennis uses podcasts to pass time on his commute to work or when doing anything that is a monotonous task.

"I have a long car ride to work. It's about forty-five minutes, so it passes the time for sure, and it is something you can kind of think about subconsciously while you are focusing on the road," Dennis stated.

No matter what a person is interested in, there is a podcast for everyone. From crime to comedy to advice to religious discussions, there is no shortage of topics available. The next time you are trying to find a way to pass the time, log on to Spotify, YouTube or any other podcast app and give listening a go.

## Will President Trump be impeached?

LAURA AMRHEIN / Staff writer

OPINION – Donald Trump. This name has the power to cause a vast amount of arguments, which have only intensified in recent weeks as the possible impeachment of Trump is discussed.

Many Americans wish for the impeachment of Trump due to many reasons. One reason is because of a phone call between President Trump and the Ukrainian government, a call that the House of Representatives found out about through an unidentified source.

The Democrats within the House of Representatives, including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, are making the accusation that Trump had told the Ukrainian president that he would give him the foreign aid money if, and only if, he investigated the Biden family.

Joe Biden, vice president during the Obama administration and current presidential candidate, was leading foreign policy with the Ukraine. During that time, his son, Hunter Biden, was on the board of a Ukraine energy company. Therefore, it is unclear if a possible conflict of interest existed, hence the idea that the Bidens needed to be investigated.

In order for Trump to be impeached, the House of Representatives, which has a democratic majority, would have to vote to impeach him. After that, the Senate would have to vote for him to be impeached as well. While the future outcome is unclear, many Salisbury students are skeptical about an impeachment due to the approval by the Senate and House of Representatives that is needed.

"Honestly, I don't think he [Trump] will [be impeached] ... the House or the Senate, one of them has to vote on it, and I know one of them is majority Republican, so it is probably not going to get through there [the House and Senate] anyway ... so I think it will get blocked in one of those two places,"



/ Shutterstock image

junior Neverson Simms-Clark stated.

Other students are concerned that the impeachment will be stopped due to the time constraint that is created by the upcoming election in 2020.

"I don't really think they are going to go through with it. I just feel like it's all talk. The election is coming up very soon, so it's just like, I don't think they are going to be able to do it before next year, [in] 2020, when we have a new election," Kmorea Madison, a sophomore at SU, stated.

Students at Salisbury are also uncertain about the impeachment's actual occurrence due to the history surrounding impeachments. Only two presidents, Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton, have faced possible impeachment. The impeachment did not occur in the end for either president.

"I doubt that he will be. The last two presidents that came close to it ran away before it went down, so I doubt that we will actually be able to hold him down enough to impeach him, or if they finally do bring it to court, it'll

be too late and he'll be out of the running anyway," junior Samantha Goldberg stated. Though unsure about the chance of the impeachment actually occurring, many students at Salisbury believe that an impeachment is necessary.

"I personally do think he should be impeached. I think that there's quite a bit of things that I don't personally agree with and I think are against what we should have as a presidential candidate and that we should not have representing our beautiful country," stated Goldberg.

Other students, however, believe that it would be in the best interest of the United States to not impeach Trump due to the disorder and divide that it would cause in the nation.

"I don't think he will be impeached, because he only has, like, a year left, so I feel like we should just ride it out, because if he becomes impeached, there will be so much chaos within the nation," sophomore Hallie Hyers stated.



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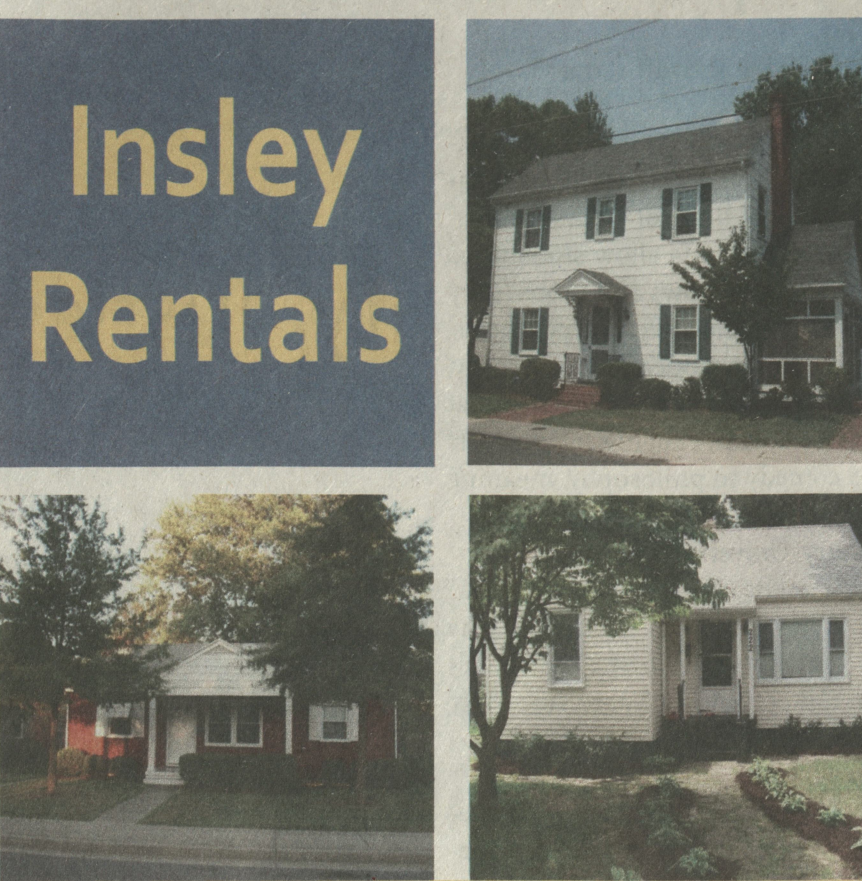
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# GULL LIFE

HIGHLIGHTS

SMVA ESTABLISHES VETERANS' LOUNGE / p11

## Center for Equity, Justice & Inclusion opens its doors welcoming SU community

CAROLINE STREETT / Gull Life editor

INCLUSION—Established in spring of 2019, the new Center for Equity, Justice & Inclusion held an open house Oct. 1 to showcase all of the services and initiatives the center has to offer.

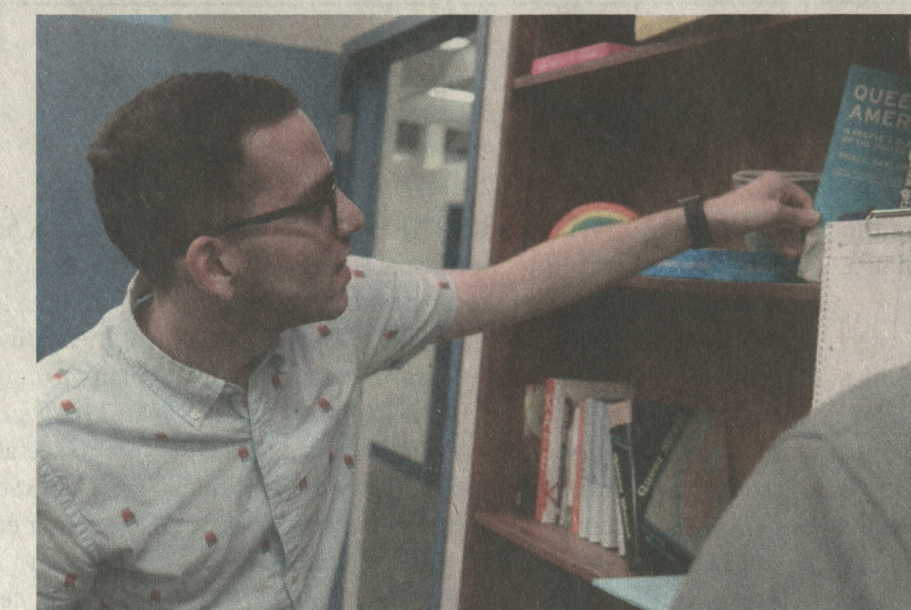
In an initiative to make the campus more inclusive, the center currently consists of three main groups on campus — Salisbury University Women's Forum, LGBTQIA+ Alliance and Disability.

Each diverse community has its own room in the center and has personalized it to represent the goals, beliefs and values of their specified groups.

SU professor and SUWF Chair Elsie Walker beamed with excitement as she welcomed attendees of the open house and informed them about SU-WF's mission.

"I'm hoping that every semester, we can open the doors in this way, encourage people to come in, welcome them, make them feel included, make them feel important, because they share this common goal of honoring diversity and furthering humanitarian rights," Walker said.

Walker explained that the chapter



Caroline Streett image

aims to empower and support women, and that anyone of any gender is encouraged to take advantage of the space so long as they celebrate equity.

Complete with a changing table, information on SU's Parent Support Google group and a women's "Wall of Inspiration," the space aims to make mothers on campus feel empowered and understood.

Walker encourages anyone and everyone to visit the space and contribute

to the "Wall of Inspiration." She highlights that this is a space dedicated to any woman whom you feel has made an impact either on you individually or on the world.

As a whole, Walker felt the open house was important because she feels that not enough people know enough about the different spaces, and therefore, people are reluctant to utilize the space to their benefit.

"I feel that it's very important that

we now have this tangible, significant space that's about recognizing diversity," Walker said. "I also feel that the space has been too quiet since it opened last year, because a lot of people have not become aware that it's open to them."

SU nursing professor and Board Member of SUWF Dr. Kayna Freda attended the open house and spoke with her fellow nursing students about the ability to share these resources with their own patients who are mothers.

Freda serves as the family liaison in SUWF and just recently started an initiative to help mothers who are a part of SU's faculty and staff. In holding discussions that cover various topics of motherhood and balancing those duties with work, Freda hopes moms on campus can feel more understood and supported.

Along with the women's center, there is a center down the hall that the eye simply cannot miss.

As rainbow flags, posters and

Inclusion / page 10

## Food for the Flock making strides in battling food insecurity

ANNIE GEITNER / Staff writer

FOOD PANTRY—For two semesters now, the space across from the bookstore has been occupied by Food for the Flock, a student-organized club that provides an on-campus food pantry for students who suffer from food insecurity while attending Salisbury University.

The pantry idea was created by the 2015 cohort of Presidential Citizen Scholars and is currently being managed by an executive board consisting of Morgan McGlone-Smith as director of logistics, Jazmine Anthony as director of inventory and Anya Galbreath as director of communications.

When talking about the original group of PCS students who started FFTE, McGlone-Smith remarked how they "saw an issue with food insecurity in the Salisbury community and then narrowed it down to the Salisbury campus."

McGlone-Smith went on to say, "Students had the opportunity to get their degrees, but maybe not the opportunity to eat."

From then on, the idea blossomed into a food pantry that would later turn into a club for students all around campus to come together and provide for each other's needs. FFTE may have been originally thought up in 2015, but it has been providing SU students with food and personal hygiene products for the last two semesters now.

When asked about the club's success, Anthony said, "Overall, for the community, we do find that quite a few students come and utilize the food pantry." She continued on to list the numbers of student visitors. "For our first semester, we had 71 students come overall, and for the second, we had 179," Anthony



Brendan Link image

stated.

The need for the club is becoming more and more apparent every semester. As more students realize that FFTE is accessible to them, the pantry will continue to see more visitors, and the club will need more people to help run the bigger operation.

This is a club that lives and breathes based on the participation of the student body to not only donate goods, but to also volunteer.

"We really struggle with volunteers; it's very difficult to find new volunteers," Anthony said.

Anthony then went on to further discuss how the location of the pantry causes some unwanted problems.

"It's difficult sometimes to get the word out,

"Like hey, we're here," [because] we have a very awkward location," Anthony said. "It's hard to find us sometimes."

Even with these struggles, the pantry continues to be a place where students of all statuses can come and receive the aid they need. Galbreath touched on the stigma-free area FFTE provides.

"In the terms of who comes, like, the point of the pantry is to be stigma-free. We don't ask for financial status or anything. I think that makes people more willing to come out and use the pantry," Galbreath said.

This small project idea has seen massive growth in the last four years. This fact is something that the executive board recognized when it decided to create a paid position within FFTE.

Pantry / page 10



## Food pantry/ from page 9

With this new paid position, the board hopes to yield a greater response of visitors from the student body with the ability to extend hours of operation.

"We actually are now hiring somebody so we can have more open hours, so the pantry can be utilized more by those people," Anthony said. "We do have awkward evening hours, so sometimes it can be harder to get there, so by hiring this person, we will hopefully help more people

on campus."

With this new hire, hopefully FFTF will be able to provide food and hygiene aid to more SU students at hours more conducive to the busy non-stop student lifestyle. As of right now, any student can come pick up what they need on Wednesday and Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Any student is welcome and even encouraged to join FFTF.

This is a club that is helping correct a problem

that many in Salisbury face: food insecurity. Students here at SU can now ease the worry of where their next meal is coming from with the help of the FFTF team.

## Inclusion/ from page 9

streamers cover not only the walls but extend to the ceilings, the space for the LGBTQA+ Alliance is one that radiates color and pride.

SU junior and Vice President of SU's LGBTQA+ Alliance Skyler Snesrud was all smiles as she welcomed newcomers into the space.

Snesrud explained that the club welcomes anyone and everyone into their colorful space and that their main goal is to make SU students feel comfortable on campus no matter who they are and how they identify themselves.

"It's a safe space where members of the community can come to hang out, to talk to people if they feel they need to talk to someone, they can do their homework," Snesrud said. "It's just an all-inclusive space, and we're here today so people know that we exist."

PACE staff member and SU alum Michael Webber attended the open house and spoke with SU junior Jay Meashey while checking out the all queer-inspired library that the LGBTQA+ Alliance at SU established in its safe space.

Webber highlighted that when he attended SU as a graduate student, the space did not exist, and he was proud of the strides SU's LGBTQ A+ community has made in the years following his studies here.

"I think it's really cool what they've been able to accomplish with the space that used to be the

old library," Webber said. "They've turned it into this really multicultural space, and I think it's really cool to see that transformation."

Down the hall from the LGBTQA+ Alliance is a room dedicated to students on campus with disabilities. President of Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society Will Fried talked of the various events he hopes to hold in an effort to celebrate students with disabilities on campus.

DAP is a society that gives recognition to academically successful students with disabilities, and as an extension of that, the Disability center gives these students a more comfortable place to meet and bond with one another.

Fried hopes that with the new space, along with the help of other organizations on campus like SU's Student Government Association and collaborations with the Institutional Office of Equity, more people feel comfortable with and are more aware of disabled people on campus.

"We're just trying to spread disability awareness, and we're trying to get students and faculty to feel like they can be more open about their disability," Fried said. "There's ability in your disability. You can achieve your mind to success with anything you put in regardless of your disability, and it cannot hold you back."

Salisbury University President Dr. Charles Wight and wife Victoria Rasmussen attended

the open house and were extremely pleased with the turnout.

Wight took the time to speak with the leaders of these diverse organizations and to discuss future plans to incorporate the Center for Justice, Equity and Inclusion into campus life.

Associate Vice President of the Office of Institutional Equity Humberto Aristizabal described how the center emulates Wight's initiative to promote diversity and inclusion on campus.

"The center is instrumental to reaffirm our commitment to promote diversity and inclusion on campus because it provides a space where people can mingle and they are able to come — especially from underrepresented groups — to integrate into

## SU Spotlight: Salisbury University student Bassnt Wahba teaches at local detention center

JACK FIECHTNER / Staff writer

DETENTION-For the last two months, a Salisbury University student and resident of Wicomico County, Bassnt Wahba, has been teaching the inmates of Wicomico County Detention Center.

She is a mother of two kids, has a bachelor's degree in math and is in the process of obtaining a master's degree in English.

When asked why she chose a master's degree in English, Wahba explained her future aspirations.

"My goal is to be a professor at Salisbury University," Wahba said.

While working for the Health Education Department at Wor-Wic Community College, she teaches General Education Development and English as a Second Language classes, otherwise known as GED and ESL, that focus on English and math.

After being asked to teach in jail on behalf of the Adult Continued Education program, she decided on the Wicomico County Detention Center.

"It's a new thing to do," Wahba said.

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Caroline Streett image

"It's a new thing to do," Wahba said.

Wahba teaches her students for up to three hours most days of the week in order for them to achieve their General Education Development diploma.

To students who have already received their high school diploma or GED equivalent, they are offered free online courses at Wor-Wic Community College.

The satisfaction she receives from being a teacher is what drives her to help. Her class at the detention center consists of six students ranging from ages 18 to 30.

Upon entering the classroom, Wahba's day is a bit different than for that of your average teacher. Wahba explained such differences in revealing the minimal amount of supplies she is allowed to bring in.

"When you walk through, they search you. You cannot have anything with you, not even your purse," Wahba said. "Just a book and your lesson plan."

In her description of her lesson plans, Wahba highlights that she normally opens with the teaching of math. Wahba's teaching revolves around explanation of topics, followed by examples and then encouraged group work.

Wahba finds patience to be an important virtue when working with the inmates. She is always willing to delve deeper into subjects further if need be.

"I give them more exercises and answer any questions so they understand everything," Wahba said.

She explained how not only are there classes offered, but also tutoring sessions to allow the individuals to be able to fully grasp the concepts. These Adult Continued Education programs offer a second chance to many misguided young adults.

Wahba stated how "At the beginning, some students came to chat or have fun with their classmates." She went on to explain that these students ended up quitting the program.

Wahba emphasized that her current students that have stuck with the program "have a goal, are smart and want to change. They want

Spotlight / page 12

## Salisbury University speaks for the birds – and not just sea gulls

GILLIAN VAN DITTA / Staff writer

BIRDS-In 2016, the Guerrieri Academic Commons opened to replace Blackwell Hall as the main library on campus. Compared to Blackwell Hall, the GAC is a testament to the university's step into the 21st century.

The GAC stands four stories high, with an electronic bell tower and floor-to-ceiling windows that let in plenty of natural light. With its modern facilities, natural color scheme and a coffee shop that passes out paper straws, the GAC seems to be an environmentally conscious building.

However, Dr. Jeremy Corfield, an associate professor of biological sciences here at Salisbury University, is quick to point out one major flaw.

"I have students who bring me dead robins they've found outside the library all the time, and they ask me what to do," Corfield said. "Salisbury is in a migratory path; we need to do something about the birds colliding into windows."

Hailing from New Zealand, where most bird species are endangered, Corfield has spent as long as he can remember studying birds.

"I just want the students to realize that birds are awesome," Corfield said. "One in four birds are gone off the planet, and it's not getting any better."

"Salisbury is big into sustainability," he added, "but I've noticed that no one is helping the birds."

Corfield explained that between habitat loss, toxins in the environment, windmills and now windows, birds are facing extreme conditions. That's why he's decided to start a bird-safe campus initiative.

The initiative involves educating the campus community on birds and bird-safe living, as well as creating bird boxes and feeders, planting bird-friendly plants and making campus windows visually opaque, to name a few.

Earlier this week, Corfield sent out a campus-wide email hoping to raise student interest.

"I'm really looking for students from all academic disciplines, not just biology majors. I want to pull all the strings from across campus," Corfield said.

It was this welcoming and accepting attitude that drew in SU sophomore Jessica Sharp.

Sharp felt that Corfield's approach was not only clever but intriguing because in reaching out to the entire campus community, it gives other students like herself the chance to meet more students outside of one's own major.

"What caught my eye was the fact that it was an open invitation to the whole campus instead of just a small part," Sharp said. "I am pushing for

more interactions with all peers, instead of just close-knit friends."

Corfield felt it was important to make this project inclusive to all types of people as a means of gaining multiple perspectives on various issues.

"I want art students to paint and design the bird boxes, I want education majors to help make infographics and I want computer science majors to help make interactive apps and place little cameras in the bird boxes," Corfield said. SU junior Caroline Graf is one student who has reached out to Corfield and shown an interest in helping making SU's campus more bird-friendly.

Recently, Graf has become more inclined in bird life in general. For in her entrepreneurial endeavors, Graf has started to expand her wood-burning business "Grilled Trees," and is doing a lot of new pieces centering on various species of birds.

"I've always been intrigued and had an interest in birds," Graf said. "And just recently, I've started to get more requests for bird-themed wood burnings, so when I saw Dr. Corfield's email, I thought it was the perfect opportunity to learn more about them."



SU junior Caroline Graf was inclined to join in Dr. Jeremy Corfield's efforts to make campus more bird-friendly after receiving multiple requests for bird-themed wood burnings. For more information on Graf's business, see her Instagram @grilled\_trees / Caroline Graf image

## Student Military and Veterans Association works to establish Veterans Lounge

CAROLINE STREETT / Gull life editor

SMVA-The transition to a new campus can be difficult for anyone; however, veterans attending a university face unique challenges that the typical college student does not face.

With near 400 students throughout Salisbury University who are veterans or are military connected, SU's Student Military and Veterans Association is working to make that transition easier with the establishment of a new lounge reserved for all student veterans and members of SMVA.

Although never having served herself, SU SMVA President Rose Scott feels that she can relate to student vets in a way that others may not be able to.

Given that Scott's parents both served in the Air Force, Scott spent the majority of her life growing up on military bases and living and breathing the military lifestyle.

"It really is challenging. It's not an easy part of life — I've watched so many things happen living on a base, you know. I've seen parents deployed," Scott said as tears welled in her eyes. "I've gone through nuclear threats, bomb threats — like, it's really even as a kid, you go through it as well."

Scott went on to highlight the challenges

that come with being a student vet, placing an emphasis on the difficulty veterans face in making connections with other students given the differences in age, life experience and priorities.

One of the main goals of SMVA at SU is to make the transition into campus life easier for veterans in various aspects of life — ranging from social life to balancing classes and everything in between.

"SMVA is basically a club for student veterans on campus to bring them together because, you know, it's challenging to find friends coming out of the military," Scott said. "They also tend to be most of the older students, so they're not the same age as most of us coming to SU."

SU senior Caleb Mayers, 30, knows this struggle firsthand, for he served six years as a weathercaster within the Air Force and spent six



Caroline Streett image



## SMVA/ from page 11

months in Afghanistan on a deployment.

Mayers shared that he is extremely excited for this opportunity for a new space dedicated to SMVA and feels that it would definitely aid in the transition process for many student veterans.

"It can be a little bit disorienting when you get out of the military and come back into a college environment," Mayers said. "Especially given the environment you've been in before, and the age gap in some cases. So, having a place that's specifically for veterans who share that kind of common experience could be really amazing."

SU's Veterans and Special Populations Coordinator Shannon Hardester is responsible for keeping up with the veterans at SU and helping them with the difficult transition from wartime to school time.

Hardester has high hopes that the student veterans will make great use of the space.

Elaborating on this idea, Hardester explained she feels that the space will be extremely beneficial to the veterans in giving them a stronger sense of belonging at SU.

"I think it will be beneficial to them because a lot of them are a little bit older ... and they get a little anxious going into other spaces like, say, Hungry Minds, where there's, like, a ton of people," Hardester said. "So, it'll be nice for them to have a space to go where it'll be quiet and where they can meet other vets like them."

Following the revamping and repurposing of Black-

well Hall in fall semester of 2018, Scott received word that a room being dedicated to SMVA was a strong possibility.

According to Scott, a designated space for the club has been a large goal and something that SU veterans have wanted for a while now.

"Sometime last semester, we were told that no other clubs were really jumping at the chance to use the space, so they just kind of gave it to us, which was really nice," Scott said.

Scott revealed that while the space seemed to come easily without the need to "jump through hoops" to get it, it was definitely something that the club felt it needed and had waited a while for.

The new space, dedicated to any SU veteran as well as all members of SMVA, is located in Room 207 of Blackwell.

Executive members of SMVA are currently in the planning process of decorating and revamping the space.

Scott hopes to make the space a comfortable "home-away-from-home" for the student veterans.

"In my head, just something comfortable, something for the vets, like maybe some resources and pamphlets, computers," Scott said. "We were thinking also, like, a TV and an old Xbox — just something so that [the veterans] can connect with each other and feel comfortable."

For more information on SU's chapter of SMVA, contact Scott or attend a meeting. Meetings are held Mondays from 5 to 6 p.m. in Perdue Hall Room 350.

## Spotlight/ from page 10

to have some sort of certificate to work and have a decent job."

Providing struggling individuals with a degree allows them to be able to effectively reform into society. Legal economic opportunities provided by a degree deter individuals with previous convictions from resorting back to crime due to having a means to support oneself with.

Most of Wahba's students are young adults of similar ages to students at SU who are changing and just want a second chance.

One experience that stuck with her was seeing a student who struggled in mathematics continuously meet with a tutor during one-on-one sessions in order to learn the fundamental topics of the material covered. The determination of her students gives her the confidence of their success in the class and long-term goal of earning a degree.

"Adult Continued Education is a very good program. People there are working so hard, and if anyone needs to register in the program, it will help," Wahba said.

## International Buddy Program celebrates new global friendships

CAROLINE STREETT / Gull Life editor

**BUDDY PROGRAM** – Salisbury University is home to over 200 international students originating from 60 countries around the world, according to SU's official website.

With the establishment of SU's International Buddy Program, these international students are given the opportunity to integrate themselves into campus culture while creating long-lasting friendships along the way.

The buddy program consists of an application process in which both international and domestic students answer a series of questions to allow them to be paired with a student of like interests and hobbies.

Beyond friendship, the program promises the benefits of language and cultural exchanges as well as the ability to gain new perspectives of the world.

International Student Success Coordinator Melissa Aristizabal Vizcaino works to help international students adjust to the culture shock that comes with moving to a completely foreign place, and she works to make sure they have everything they need to succeed in such a diverse environment.

Vizcaino feels that the International Buddy Program is "one of the best practices that we do for an international education."

She highlighted that the program started about five years ago and has been rising in popularity each year — so much so that this year, the number of American students that applied outnumbered the ratio of international students.

The program accommodated to this influx of interest by allotting each international student two domestic students this year instead of one.

The requirements of the program include setting up mutual meeting times with your buddy and meeting for at least one hour a week. The program also offers up several group events throughout the semester, including a bonfire on Assateague Island, trips to the Shorebirds baseball games and an event at Altitude Trampoline Park.

Assistant Provost for International Education at SU Brian Stiegler is passionate in all endeavors revolving around global opportunities.

In being a strong proponent for the Buddy Program, Stiegler shared his perspective on what he feels students can gain in joining such a program.

"The buddy program is about bringing together people from around the world," Stiegler said. "It's about giving American students the chance to have a global experience without ever leaving Salisbury, and it's about creating a welcoming, warm environment for new international students to our community."

Stiegler also placed emphasis on how great the establishment of the Global Village has been in aiding international and domestic students in cultivating a more welcoming atmosphere toward the culturally diverse.



Caroline Street image

Stiegler explained that the Global Village is a Residence Life initiative that provides a home for about 45 international students and 45 American students.

"Our hope is that by next year, we'll have all these beds filled by people who want to live in an environment that is multicultural and international and multilingual," Stiegler said.

The Buddy Program kicked off this fall semester of new buddy relationships with a picnic held in the Global Village on Oct. 11.

Colorful flags from all over the globe blew in the wind as SU students — both international and domestic — waited anxiously to meet their new friends.

The picnic consisted of handshakes and warm embraces as a multitude of conversations drowned out the tunes that played in the background.

SU junior Gabrielle Rapine attended the picnic to meet her international buddy for the first time. Rapine eagerly scanned the crowd as she searched for her new global friend's nametag.

Rapine explained that she was glad that she went on a whim and joined the Buddy Program.

"I joined the Buddy Program because I've always been very interested in other cultures," Rapine said. "My old major was actually anthropology, so, it was just really exciting to see an opportunity to make friends and really connect with people from other regions."

The picnic also allowed international students the chance to grill and eat their first hotdog if they never had before, in an effort to give them a taste of American culture.

SU senior and Spanish education major Jacey Young first became interested in international affairs



eCampus image

# SPORTS

HIGHLIGHTS

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## Former Sea Gull looks to Olympics with strong championship showing

JILLIAN SWAIM, COREY YOUNG AND NICK LEWIS / Layout editor, staff writer and sports editor

**TRACK AND FIELD** – Aside from the Olympics, every sport has a definitive championship to determine who the clear-cut winner is. For soccer, it is the World Cup. For football, the Super Bowl. And for the world of track and field, the pinnacle of racing season is the International Association of Athletics Federations World Championships.

The 2019 IAAF World Championships, hosted in Doha, Qatar, served as the international debut of the Division III track and field star Luke Campbell in the 400-meter high hurdles.

Representing Germany, Campbell raced a 49.14-second personal best in the 400-meter hurdles and recorded a 50.00-second time in the 400-meter hurdles at the world championship. Although pitted in the second lane, an unlucky lane in the sprinter and hurdler community, Campbell progressed to the semifinals.

Despite not reaching his expectations for the event, Campbell said that going to an event with high-level athletes from around the world and reaching the semifinals was a special moment in his career.

"Making it to the semifinals was a big thing for me," Campbell said. "It was one of my goals for the season, and I was able to do that, but time-wise, I felt I had a lot more to give."

But while getting to Worlds and competing with some of the most talented runners from around the world is a significant accomplishment, Campbell's collegiate success is what

molded and laid the stepping stones to professionalism.

Campbell tallied a Division III-record 11 career national championships in his career as a Sea Gull. These victories came in the 60-meter hurdles, 110-meter hurdles, 400-meter hurdles and the 4x400-meter relay.

Jarrell Young, a college teammate and close friend of Campbell, says Campbell came to Salisbury as a kid with talent, but then took his abilities to another level.

Young said he was able to witness the growth and development of Campbell as a sprinter, hurdler and teammate.

"He just kinda took off in college," Young said. "His off-season training was crazy ... I had the opportunity to live with him throughout the summer, and this man ... we were running every single day, he was lifting ... eating right, eating healthy, watching the amount of calorie intake he was eating."

Young spoke highly of Campbell's abilities as a leader of his teammates on Salisbury's track and field team.

In addition to helping incoming freshmen adapt to the college environment, Young said Campbell helped to keep the athletes on Salisbury's track and field team focused and ready for each new challenge.

"He was a very good captain," Young stated. "He's not afraid to call somebody out if they're not doing what they need to do ... He was very stern, but again, a fun captain."

In his freshman season, Campbell received numerous honors for his strong performance.



Luke Campbell pulls ahead in a hurdle event for Salisbury/ Sports Information Image

es. Most notably, he was named a U.S. Track & Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association All-American in both the indoor and outdoor seasons.

This early success led himself and many others, including Young, to realize that Campbell had a real opportunity at running professionally.

Young said that Campbell's early notoriety caught many of his teammates off guard, and they were shocked by the things he was able to accomplish.

"Once he became known on a national scene, he's like, 'Man, this could go somewhere,'" Young said. "We were all telling him, 'Why are you here? Why aren't you going D1? You beat D1 people.'"

Campbell/ page 15

## 30 years of success: A look into Dawn Chamberlin's winning culture

DANIELLE TYLER / Staff writer

**FIELD HOCKEY** – Salisbury field hockey head coach Dawn Chamberlin's success as a coach began with her time as a player.

Chamberlin began laying the foundation for her legendary career as the head coach for Salisbury's field hockey program in 1985, but the college years that came before proved invaluable for Chamberlin as a leader.

Chamberlin played her collegiate field hockey at the University of Iowa, where she was a four-year letter winner. She was named a co-captain in her final two seasons for the Hawkeyes and experienced three straight Big Ten championships from 1981 to 1983.

As a Hawkeye, Chamberlin collected the Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Academic award from 1982 to 1985 and the Physical Education Academic Achievement award from 1983 to 1985.

Chamberlin graduated from Iowa in 1985 and was hired to be the head coach of Salisbury University field hockey in 1987. She also earned her Master of Education at Salisbury in the same year, 1987.

She went on to get her doctorate from the University of Maryland in 2000. This dedication to both academic and athletic improvement is something Chamberlin echoes in her coaching style.

Chamberlin said her experience from a young age and throughout college has contributed to her success at Salisbury.

"I've been playing since the fourth grade and all throughout college," Chamberlin said. "Spring of sophomore year, my college coach made me a captain, so I really learned how to be a leader on the fly."

Salisbury has won four national championships with Chamberlin at the helm, with the team claiming three consecutive titles



Dawn Chamberlin talks to Arielle Johnston on the sideline/ Sports Information Image

from 2003 to 2005 and adding the fourth in 2009.

Chamberlin is currently ranked third among active coaches and fifth all-time in Division III with 502 victories. She has directed her Sea Gulls to 21 Capital Athletic Conference championships and 15 continuous CAC championships from 1995 to 2011.

In 2009, Chamberlin was inducted into the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Chamberlin believed that being inducted into the NFHCA Hall of Fame was about more than her personal achievements. She felt strongly that her long-term success came from the many players and assistant coaches who have helped along the way.

"It was something that was really special and something that was earned as a result of all the great field hockey players that I've had come through here," Chamberlin said. "All the great assistant coaches that I've had,

and it's not something that I have earned on my own, it was a group effort."

Not only do Chamberlin's players produce on the field, they thrive in the classroom as well. There have been 185 National Academic Squad members and 18 CAC Player of the Year honorees.

Since 1987, Chamberlin has coached 65 Division III All-Americans. In 29 of her 30 years, there has been at least one All-American in each season at Salisbury.

Whether it is individual help that Chamberlin provides or providing extra work behind the scenes, Chamberlin does what is needed to put her team in a position to win and help each player reach their full potential.

Junior goalkeeper Dom Farrace expressed that when she first came to Salisbury, she was not at the physical level that collegiate sports demand. Chamberlin helped Farrace work to get fit and up to speed.

"When I first came, I was not in the shape to where I should be at the collegiate level, and coach pushed me to be at that fitness level," Farrace said. "I had that somewhat in high school, but when I came here, I feel like she pushed me to be such a better player overall."

Farrace has since emerged as one of the top goalies in Division III field hockey, a credit to the job Chamberlin has done as her mentor. She currently ranks 14th in Division III with a .860 goals against average.

A lot of aspects go into a successful coach, but it is the way Chamberlin shapes her players into adults and focuses on team chemistry that stands out as a factor of the team's success.

Two-time All-American senior defender Jillian Hughes said that Chamberlin demands success from her players, which helps push them to their absolute best.

Chamberlin/ page 14



# Salisbury men's soccer relying on young Gulls in goal

TYLER SMITH / Staff writer

**MEN'S SOCCER** - The Salisbury University men's soccer team had just two options at the goalkeeper position last season. The team opened the 2019 campaign with five different players vying for the job.

This depth features just one returner in senior keeper Sam Roy. Freshman keepers Ryan Miller, Gabe Dunn, Ashton Carey and Ryan Socks comprise the remainder of the Salisbury goalie depth chart.

Head coach Alex Hargrove has been pleased with every goalie and their contribution to the team throughout the young season.

"Trying to add to the [goalkeeper] depth was important this season, and each goalie brings something important to the position," Hargrove said. "It's great for the entire team and developmental opportunities because of depth."

This season has allowed several young Sea Gull keepers to get some experience in goal and to try leading the defense in important game-time situations. But having this influx of young talent has prevented Hargrove from naming a solidified starter at the position.

Instead, Hargrove entered the year rotating goalies throughout the week, even occasionally throughout a single game. Hargrove wanted to see how the players would perform under pressure.

"About two weeks into the season, the difference between the number-one keeper and number-four keeper was pretty small," Hargrove said. "It's important to see how they dealt with pressure situations and [organizing] the back line."

Miller has stood out among the competition this season, playing in nine games with seven starts. Miller boasts a 1.05 goals against average with 29 saves and a 5-2-1 record in 2019.

As a first-year Sea Gull, Miller feels that getting this experience has allowed him to grow both as an overall player and as a leader of the team.

"[As a goalie], it's all about feeling out each player, adjust to teammates and getting advice from coaches," Miller said. "Being

open-minded and coachable is the best thing you can be as a player."

Miller is not the only young Salisbury keeper that has gotten an opportunity this year. Dunn and Carey have both had chances to grab the starting job this season.

In two appearances, Dunn has recorded five saves and a 1-1-0 record. Carey has also tallied two appearances, allowing just one goal with no earned record.

Hargrove speaks highly of both Dunn and Carey in their preparation and performance in practice and limited game time this year.

"[Dunn's] greatest improvement has been on his foot skills and verbal communication," Hargrove said. "[Carey] has settled into his own and commands the back line really well."

Even goalies Roy and Socks, who may not be getting as much playing time as the others, have provided a certain level of effort and intensity in practice, which has pushed their teammates and helped the depth of the position grow throughout the season.

Regardless of who is in goal in games or at practice, the team has confidence and rallies around the players in the net.

Junior defender Matt Mackenzie said the defense has appreciated the hard work and talent of the current unit of keepers, as it is important to be solid at the back in order to win games.

With just seven games remaining, Hargrove said there is still plenty of room for improvement from every keeper on the roster. Hargrove identified two things that needed improvement: securing the ball and communicating on the back end.

"Catching the ball on saves and from set pieces is a priority for keepers both in practice and in games," Hargrove said. "In communication, our volume and frequency of communication to the guys in front of them can always be better."

Whether it be crosses from corner kicks, free kicks or from shots by the other team, it is valued to be able to secure the ball to prevent further chances for the opponent.

As the goalkeeper, it is vitally important to be decisive and vocal during a game, as goalkeepers are the last line of defense, and they have the best view of how the opponent plans



Ryan Miller rolls the ball to a teammate upfield / Emma Reider Image

to attack throughout the game.

The keeper's command aids the defense in covering what it might be unable to see from its position. This is key to organization on the back end and preventing the opposition from scoring.

When it comes to improvement, Ryan Miller states that it is important for himself and his fellow goalies to develop a certain anticipation for anything that can happen in a game.

"We should always improve [being able to] read and adjust during the game and anticipate the unexpected," Miller said.

Improving upon the mental aspect of play is crucial for goalies, as they are required to make important split-second decisions ranging from positioning to communicating to their defenders, and a lapse in judgement or a simple mistake can cost their team the game.

Mackenzie also mentioned that communication as a defensive unit could improve, starting from the back and the back line. This allows the defense to stay on the same page and earn as many clean sheets as possible.

While Miller has been the go-to player at the goalie position, Hargrove's main priority is winning games, and he feels comfortable making a change moving forward if he feels it is necessary.

"We are going to try to put the eleven guys on the field we think gives us the best chance to win the match," Hargrove said.

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McKenzie Mitchell defends a Gwynedd Mercy attacker/Sports Information Image

larger roles on the team is a testament to the ability to develop talent. Head coach Dawn Chamberlin has 30 years of experience in developing young Sea Gulls, and Mitchell is no exception.

Mitchell has felt that her game has improved tremendously thanks to staying locally at Salisbury, and she is grateful to be coached by a National Field Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame field hockey coach.

"My skills were decent, but just being coached by coach Chamberlin, she's improved my play by so much, and I couldn't ask for a better coach," Mitchell said.

On a perennial contender with so many weapons on attack, standing out can be difficult, but McKenzie has shown the ability to lead the charge.

Mitchell's offensive improvement from last season has caught

the eye of Chamberlin. She said she admires Mitchell's eagerness and hunger to score every chance the opportunity presents itself to her.

"Mitch has come in this year much more fit and more mature in terms of the college game, and she's been able to really help us out this year," Chamberlin said. "She's got a really nice shot, a quick shot, and she's eager to score and that's what you have to be ... if you're not hungry to score, you're going to miss some opportunities."

The family aspect of Salisbury field hockey, which reminded Mitchell of her high school experience at Pocomoke, contributed to her staying local.

Senior midfielder Arielle Johnston, a Crisfield native, has also seen Mitchell's hard work and passion on the field. Johnston knows that if there

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## Campbell/ from page 13

Maura Burke, former assistant track coach, was able to see the later part of Campbell's running career at Salisbury University. She also was a witness to Campbell's rise as an elite athlete though hard work and dedication.

"I was on staff for the later part of Luke's collegiate career, but I knew of him before that as a standout athlete," Burke said. "Luke had a fantastic career over the course of four years. He was incredibly consistent and improved each year ... He became a more confident athlete as he grew, but remained extremely humble."

Burke was not shy about Campbell's professional and dedicated conduct, which ran down to the rest of the team.

Burke said that Campbell also continuously went above and beyond, which is one of the reasons he has reached professional heights.

"Luke arrived ready for practice every day, did whatever was asked of him and then said 'What's next?'" Burke said. "He's one of those few athletes you actually have to hold back

because they just want to work ... The other sprinters on the team looked up to him because of his work ethic. He led by example."

But college success is not the final step for athletes like Campbell. Staying in peak condition without the push from coaches or teammates after graduating can prove difficult while also trying to juggle jobs and the grind of post-college life.

Burke said that Campbell faced these challenges head-on and continued to work at a high level, leading to his success.

"It will make or break you, but he kept his goals in mind," Burke said. "Luke would be out at the track in the snow, rain or heat wave. Nothing was standing in his way of training ... He had no excuses; he just went out there and got it done."

Jim Jones, coach of the Salisbury cross country and track and field teams for the past 20 years, recruited Campbell to SU.

Jones described how he saw Campbell grow as a person, teammate and world-class athlete.

"Coming in, Campbell was not fully developed as an athlete," Jones said. "But the main thing is that I saw was somebody with

good talent that could grow and develop with some good training into a very good athlete."

Jones described Campbell as a teammate that not only wanted success for himself, but also wanted success for others and was willing to make many sacrifices for the team.

This was seen when Campbell ran four events to help the Salisbury track team finish fourth at Division III nationals his senior year. These events included the 110-meter high hurdles, 400-meter hurdles, 4x100 meter and 4x400 meter relays.

Jones was pleased that Campbell made it to the track and field world championships and was also impressed that Campbell made it to the semifinal round in a very competitive event.

After turning in a strong performance in the world championships in Doha this year, Campbell has his eyes set on a bigger stage: the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

"At this point, most importantly, it's just to rest and give my body the time it needs because it's definitely been a long season," Campbell said. "From there, it's all about the preparation and looking to have a qualifying spot for Tokyo."

## Q&A: Head football coach Sherman Wood

NICK LEWIS / Sports editor

Sherman Wood is entering his 21st season as Salisbury's head football coach. He is the program's all-time winningest coach and has led the Sea Gulls to 15 consecutive postseason appearances.

Wood was a standout defensive back for the Sea Gulls from 1980 to 1983, recording seven career interceptions and returning two for touchdowns. He began his coaching career in 1984, returning to Salisbury as a coach in 1999.

Wood has also led the Sea Gulls to seven NCAA Tournament appearances in his time at the helm. He has received four Conference Coach of the Year awards and was named the 2011 American Football Coaches Association Region Coach of the Year.

The Flyer had the chance to sit down with Wood and discuss his journey back to Salisbury, the culture he has built, his favorite places to eat around Salisbury and more.

**Q: What events led to your return to Salisbury as a coach?**

**A:** After my [playing] career ended in 1983, I had one semester left to graduate, but my eligibility was up. A gentleman who's now the head men's lacrosse coach at Gettysburg, Hank Janczyk, got me started into coaching ... I started in '84 as a student assistant, and then in 1985 there was a graduate assistantship open at Bowie State University, so I journeyed there ... We took over a program in '85 that had the longest losing streak in the country, and in three years we ended up going to the national playoffs. That's when my full-time career started in coaching, after that great turnaround ... they promoted me to defensive coordinator and special teams coordinator ... In '92, I was offered another job at Virginia Union University. We were there for one year and after the third game of the season, the head coach was fired ... So I was actually unemployed from February to April, and then I got a call from Bowie State, who was looking for a head coach ... I was able to get that job, and I was there six years ... but all along, I was paying attention to Salisbury. All of a sudden, my name came up, and I thought the school wanted to make a difference, and here I am.

**Q: What changes have you made to the culture of the program?**

**A:** Well, when I came in, staff-wise, we had to revamp the staff. Recruiting-wise, we were okay, but we just felt we needed something different. Coach Rob Disbennett touched base with me about this guy named Doug Fleetwood, who I knew for a long time because we recruited a lot of his kids from Cambridge High School. I thought that was a difference, along with his son and some other that came through, to really put a system together. That's what I wanted. I didn't wanna be one of those teams where one year you're running this, the next year you're running

that, then all of a sudden, let's implement this. I said no, let's put a system together and believe in it and trust it ... At one point in time, we weren't looking like a football team. Appearance was a big deal to me. I think our presence and the type of program we have now, we've got people paying attention.

**Q: What factor does the campus play in attracting recruits?**

**A:** It's a beautiful campus. I hear it all the time ... it has a historic feel, especially in the fall, but the facilities and resources are state-of-the-art. I believe the number one factor [for recruiting] is location. When I go into high schools, I circle SU and tell them what's around us ... We're around the beaches and we're pretty centrally located from the metropolitan area. Now that we have our stadium, I can tell you there's a host of Division II recruits and coaches that tell us what we have is better than theirs. That's why we try to get the best kids we can on campus. Even if they end up going somewhere else, it still gets their attention, and that's what the campus brings.

**Q: What is your favorite place to eat around Salisbury?**

**A:** My favorite place to eat, I'll be honest, is no longer here. It was the Old West Steakhouse. Where the car wash by Royal Farms is, that's where it used to be, and that was definitely my favorite place. Right now, it's gonna sound corny, but Texas Roadhouse is probably the most "makes sense" place in town. You can get an entrée, two sides, free rolls and all the tea you can drink for 10 bucks, man. I think the best burgers in town is Wayback ... as long as you get it hot, right off the grill.

**Q: What kind of music do you like to listen to getting ready for game day?**

**A:** I'm very diverse when it comes to music. I like Earth, Wind & Fire. I don't know what they are, but I think they cover every [genre]. I like the Doobie Brothers, and one of my favorites when I was in high school was Jeffrey Osborne, so I listen to his stuff, and then some Anita Baker.

**Q: What's your favorite NFL team?**

**A:** I grew up watching the Minnesota Vikings. My uncle was a Minnesota Vikings fan. When he introduced me to football, he always had me watching those guys ... I was about 7 years old then, just watching something, but as I got a little older and started paying attention to the Vikings ... legendary coaches like Bud Grant, the Purple People Eaters, Chuck Foreman, Sammy White, Ahmad Rashad, even Fran Tarkenton. The other piece to that, is they recruited small, black college guys. They just looked for the best people. I admire Alan Page, who [was] a judge. Their guys did a lot off the field ... I think they made a difference in life and in society. I also liked the Raiders, because back then it was a big deal with the AFC and NFC, so the Raiders were my big AFC team. I liked what they were doing, too, and I was a big John Madden fan.



Coach Wood calls out adjustments to his team during the game / Sports Information Image

## Field hockey/ from page 13

is anyone on the field she can count on, it is number 15 in the maroon and gold jersey.

"Mitch brings such a fire every time she steps on the field," Johnston said. "I personally love having her out there in front of me because I can always count on her to make the most of whatever roll she gets because she works so hard, and you can count on her to put it in the back of the net."

After adjusting to the college game in her freshman season, Chamberlin believes Mitchell knows how to find success.

"She now knows what it's like and what she needs to do at this level to be successful, and she's really picked up the pace of her game," Chamberlin said.

Mitchell currently has a team-leading eight goals, with five goals in her last three games. The Sea Gulls offense has 13 different players that have scored at least one goal this season.

Chamberlin believes that the Sea Gull offense will give opposing defenses challenges with Salisbury's ability to spread the ball around.

"They're very unselfish. If you look, we don't have anyone with an exorbitant amount of goals," Chamberlin said. "We got a lot of people with an average number of goals, and that's a good thing because it makes us more difficult to defend."

Coming off its only loss of the season to second-ranked The College of New Jersey, Salisbury outscored its next three opponents by a total of 14 goals.

Farrace credits the offense improving over the past two weeks as a key factor in its current three-game winning streak.

"I think the offense has really been pushing themselves on the field for the past two weeks. We've been really pushing ourselves in the practices to get better offensively," Farrace said.

While individual success is important, every member of the SU field hockey team is focused more on the success of the team and their quest for a national championship.

Mitchell believes that the chemistry among the team is what has helped the team find success this year.

"It's not just my play that's making the team win games, it's everyone gelling together and just coming together and making the wins matter," Mitchell said.



# More departures put CAC future in question

NICK LEWIS / Sports editor

An uncertain future is looming for the Capital Athletic Conference.

Since 2018, five schools have decided to leave the CAC. Marymount University and Wesley College moved to the Atlantic East Conference last year, while Frostburg State upgraded to Division II and Penn State Harrisburg returned to its former conference, the North Eastern Athletic Conference.

Most recently, York College of Pennsylvania announced that it will become the 18th member of the Middle Atlantic Conference and the 10th member of the MAC Commonwealth Division after the 2019-20 season. St. Mary's College of Maryland also announced that its field hockey team will compete as an affiliate of the Atlantic East Conference beginning next fall.

While the CAC has a reputation as a "transition conference," commissioner Jeff Ligney is looking for more permanent solutions.

In July of 2017, Ligney took the reins as the commissioner of the CAC. At the time, the CAC had ten members and appeared to be thriving.

Meanwhile, Marymount and Wesley were in negotiations to join the recently formed AEC. They officially joined in February of 2018.

The departures of Frostburg State and Penn State Harrisburg dropped the CAC to just six schools at the outset of 2019. Once York departs, there will be only five.

Conferences with fewer than seven teams are at risk of losing their automatic qualifier to the NCAA Tournament for whatever team wins the conference. The NCAA allows a two-year grace period before removing the bid.

Ligney said that while this has been a trying time for the CAC, the ultimate goal for all parties is stability.

"My goal as commissioner is to find stability ... which means we can't just look at the quick fixes, we need to find partners that really want to be partners and want to be with us for the long haul," Ligney said. "That's made the process longer than we had hoped, but it is also leading us to some good conclusions as we try to shore up our membership issues."

Institutions have several factors to consider when choosing an athletic conference. Location and enrollment are the two most important to note when it comes to Division III athletics.

In almost every instance, geographical location is the key factor in the decision. York's move is no exception.

York's geographical location has always been an advantage for filling schedules, as it is surrounded by other Division III universities. Moving to the MAC allows them to take advantage of the nearby schools and cuts down on travel for conference games.

Paul Saikia, assistant dean for athletics and recreation for York, said that the geographical competition that the MAC offered was the main reason for choosing to leave the CAC.

"We were very much embedded in the CAC and actively taking part in looking for new members," Saikia said. "But the opportunity from the MAC was one that had been explored by York College and the MAC reaching back all the way to the 1980s because geographically, it's a very sensible fit."

However, there is some concern regarding the dwindling numbers of the CAC.

Saikia shared this concern and acknowledged that it also played a role in the decision for York to leave the CAC.

"With schools leaving the CAC, it has become a precarious situation, and for the betterment of our athletic program and our student-athletes, we felt that this would be heading into a more stable situation," Saikia said.

Scott Devine, director of athletics and recreation for St. Mary's, declined to comment on the decision to move the field hockey team to the Atlantic East.

The shrinking of the CAC has significantly changed the way that coaches go about scheduling opponents. Many teams are being forced into a home-and-home schedule, meaning they play each of their conference opponents twice in conference play.

Salisbury University's Sports Information di-



The Capital Athletic Conference logo/Sports Information Image

rector Cyrill Parham said that scheduling is one of the main issues that the schools in the CAC are currently facing.

"Scheduling is probably the biggest thing ... for example, volleyball being away from home for a month having to play in these multi-team tournaments to fill a schedule, men's and women's soccer having to travel to Virginia to fill their schedule," Parham said. "I think it will be a problem moving forward, but it leans on the creativity of some of the coaches in terms of filling their schedule."

Salisbury has found ways to fill its schedules by utilizing some of the alliances it has established with schools in the region outside of the CAC.

Parham said that these schools could prove to be important for Salisbury going forward, especially if numbers continue to drop.

"There's still some strong teams in the region that we can play," Parham said. "Schools like Stevenson, Johns Hopkins or Washington College who are close enough ... and still provide that strength of schedule that looks good when you're looking for postseason bids, especially if the CAC loses their automatic qualifier in a couple years."

These problems reach further than the fall season. Spring sports are also feeling the pinch from the lack of teams in conference play.

Salisbury Men's Lacrosse Head Coach Jim Berkman said that the current scheduling issues may be one of the most challenging in collegiate sports.

"If we talk about all the issues in college sports, I think we might be in the most difficult situation," Berkman said. "As coaches, it's very frustrating because we don't know what to do right now."

Public institutions are in the minority in Division III athletics. Around 80% of Division III schools are private institutions.

By contrast, four of the six institutions in the CAC are public: Salisbury, the University of Mary Washington, Christopher Newport University and St. Mary's.

Most private schools prefer to compete with other private schools as they tend to be of similar size. A public school like Salisbury, with over 8,000 students and some of the top facilities in Division III, scares most private schools away.

Salisbury's Director of Athletics and Recreation Gerry DiBartolo said this is a big reason why there has been no quick or easy solution.

"A lot of conferences put into their bylaws that they will only entertain membership from private institutions," DiBartolo said. "That creates a lot of difficulty for us as a public institution in that our academic standards are high, obviously we put a good product on the field or court, our facilities are exceptional, so we're hitting all the right things, but the big issue is we're a public institution."

This has been a problem for the CAC, as there are few public schools in the area, and most schools are already aligned with a conference.

Ligney echoed this, citing the geography of the area as a roadblock for trying to fix the numbers issue.

"We are surrounded by a large majority of small, private schools ... If you're a small, private school, and you look at some of our institutions, there's some trepidation," Ligney said. "The budgets that some of our schools operate at have been a factor, and just the enrollment of an institution ... that's something that hasn't really played a role in Division III, but in the last five or ten years, it has become a huge issue."

Aside from the four public schools in the CAC, there are three other areas with Division III public schools. These schools are in New Jersey, New York and Wisconsin.

But even if travel to some of these schools was

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"She always has us hold each other accountable, we hold her accountable and she holds us accountable," Hughes said. "She is very hard-working as a coach, she is constantly watching film and she dedicates so much of her time to us, and we just want to give that back to her on the field."

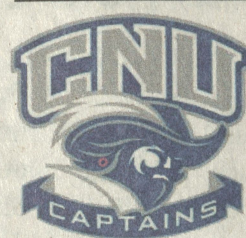
Chamberlin looks beyond talent; she looks for players that can fit the culture of Salisbury field hockey. The recruiting process is essential in prolonging good team chemistry for 30 years and beyond.

Chamberlin said that the qualities of the individual are just as important as their skill on the field, if not more so.

"Well, to me, it's about the person, it's about the character, and the skill is almost secondary," Chamberlin said. "Sure, the skill catches your eye, but I

want to find out about the person, if they have good leadership skills, are they doing the right thing academically and doing the right thing by their team."

As of Oct. 8, Chamberlin's Sea Gulls are ranked third in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association poll behind only Middlebury College and The College of New Jersey.



not an issue, these places do not offer a feasible solution. All the large public DIII schools in these areas have their own conferences in the New Jersey Athletic Conference, the State University of New York Athletic Conference and the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

There is no real alternative to the CAC for the four public schools that are involved. Because of this, these schools have been working hard to find potential solutions and other schools to help fill the schedules.

DiBartolo is pleased with the job the Salisbury coaches have done in finding opponents for this season despite the struggles.

"Our coaches are trying to figure out what kind of schedule they can put together and how many games they can get in prior to the rigors of conference scheduling," DiBartolo said. "They're working real hard at it, I can tell you that much."

With the two-year clock ticking, Ligney and the CAC are actively pursuing new members and need to find schools to introduce to the conference.

However, Ligney said the recent events have changed the goals surrounding the pursuit of new schools.

"It's led us to take a little bit of a different mindset here," Ligney said. "We are now looking at stability, we're not looking at schools that might be the best geographic fit, we're not looking necessarily at schools that might be the best competitive fit, we're looking at schools that are the best all-around fit ... we're looking at more of a partnership and building a relationship with these institutions that goes beyond athletics."

Despite the alarming situation in the conference, Salisbury has no real alternatives. The hope is that the situation will be resolved long before the automatic qualifier is in danger.

Ligney is optimistic that a solution will be found sooner rather than later.

"We would like to have our membership situation settled by June 30 of 2020," Ligney said. "We're looking at two or three different scenarios ... I believe we're on the right path and we're close, within a couple of months, to having the situation addressed."